ATLAS

MEN'S ADVENTURES

RUGGED TALES OF REAL ADVENTURE!

MAR.

NO. 26

MEN'S Adventures

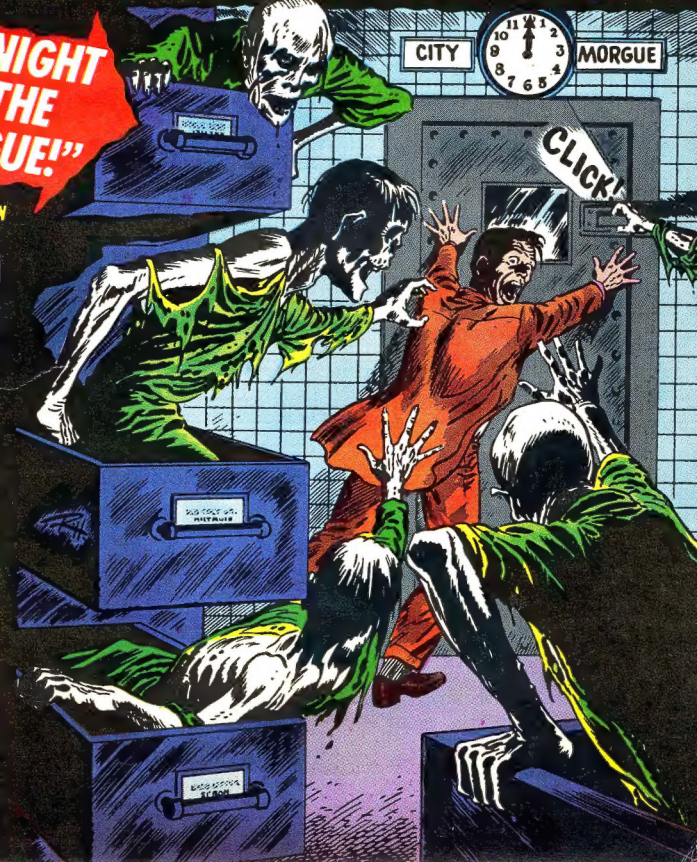
10¢

"MIDNIGHT IN THE MORGUE!"

"I WALKED ON THE MOON!"

"THE GORILLA MAN!"

"THE BURNING SANDS!"



TURN THE LIGHTS DOWN LOW, BOYS AND GHOULS, AND FEAST YOUR EYES ON OUR FIRST WEIRDIE! YOU'D EXPECT TO FIND CORPSES IN A MORGUE, WOULDN'T YOU? SURE... BUT THAT *AIN'T ALL*, CHUM! READ ON, AND YOU'LL SEE WHAT WE MEAN!

MIDNIGHT IN THE MORGUE!

YOU, JOEY BOLERO, ARE A BUSINESS-MAN! YOUR BUSINESS IS... *DEATH!* YOU'RE A SPECIALIST IN YOUR FIELD AND BUSINESS IS ALWAYS GOOD AND ALWAYS PROFITABLE! BUT BUSINESS IS A FUNNY THING... EVEN THE BEST OF BUSINESSES SOMETIMES FAIL AND GO BANKRUPT!

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N.Y. POLICE DEPT. 6 Prcnt.
CITY MORGUE

A WEIRD MEN'S ADVENTURE!

WYERS

YOU WAIT PATIENTLY! YOUR MAN IS IN THE RESTAURANT! SOON HE'LL COME OUT AND YOU'LL COMPLETE YOUR BUSINESS!

Childs

THAT'S HIM! YOU'VE STUDIED HIM FOR TWO WEEKS! YOU KNOW WHERE HE GOES, WHAT HE EATS, WHAT HE THINKS! YOU KNOW HIM BETTER THEN HE KNOWS HIMSELF! IN THIS BUSINESS A MAN CAN'T AFFORD TO MAKE MISTAKES....

YOU WALK UP TO HIM AND AS YOU REACH HIM YOU DO THE JOB YOU'VE BEEN PAID FOR....

BLAM!

YOU WALK ON WITHOUT LOOKING BACK, YOU DON'T HAVE TO, YOU KNOW YOUR OWN SKILL... BESIDES, YOU CAN'T STAND CORPSES...

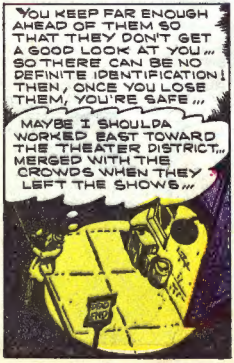
YOU KEEP WALKING STEADILY AHEAD, ALL OVER, AND NICE AND CLEAN LIKE YOU ALWAYS CONDUCT YOUR BUSINESS! THEN YOU HEAR THE SCREAM BEHIND YOU...
HIM!
TRAP
POL

HEY, YOU!

A BAD BREAK! THIS MAKES IT MESSY!

THE SHRILLING WHISTLE... THE HOLLOW, CRACKING SOUND OF THE PATROL-STICK RAPPING ON THE SIDEWALK... SUMMONING!

THE POUND OF HEAVY FEET BECOMING LOUDER... MERGING...


YOU KEEP FAR ENOUGH AHEAD OF THEM SO THAT THEY DON'T GET A GOOD LOOK AT YOU... SO THERE CAN BE NO DEFINITE IDENTIFICATION! THEN, ONCE YOU LOSE THEM, YOU'RE SAFE...
MAYBE I SHOULDA WORKED EAST TOWARD THE THEATER DISTRICT... MERGED WITH THE CROWDS WHEN THEY LEFT THE SHOWS...

WELL, IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT NOW... I CAN'T TURN BACK! LET'S SEE... IT'S FIFTEEN AFTER TEN... I'LL FIND SOME SPOT TO HOLE UP IN FOR A COUPLA HOURS, UNTIL THE COPS GET OFF MY TAIL!

CRIPES, IT'S BEGINNING TO RAIN!
YOU START OUT OF THE ALLEY... LIGHT SUDDENLY FANS OUT./ YOU DUCK BACK AND WATCH....
PIPE TOBACCO! MUSTA LEFT IT INSIDE!
THE LITTLE FAT MAN TURNS BACK INTO THE ROOM AND LEAVES THE DOOR AJAR....
A BREAK! GET IN OUT OF THE RAIN AN' HOLE UP FROM THE COPS! LOOKS LIKE A WAREHOUSE OF SOME KIND.
HE'S COMIN' BACK!
YOU SLIP INTO THE CLOSET! THRU THE DOOR CRACK YOU WATCH THE LITTLE MAN COME TO THE EXIT AGAIN AND TURN OUT THE LIGHTS...
IT'S DARK! THE DOOR CLOSES, A KEY GRATES IN THE LOCK! THE LITTLE MAN'S FOOTSTEPS CLUMP AWAY AND FADE/ NOW THERE'S NO SOUND BUT THE RAIN!
HE LOCKED THE DOOR! NO MATTER... I'LL FIND A WINDOW WHEN I WANT TO LEAVE!
I'LL CASE THE JOINT AN' LOCATE THAT WINDOW!
YOU'RE IN A LARGE ROOM OFF THE HALL! THERE'S VAGUE SHAPES, LIKE BIG CRATES! IT'S SO DARK... THEN LIGHTNING STREAKS OUTSIDE, AND IN THE SUDDEN LIGHT THE ROOM STANDS STARK AND SHARPLY CLEAR!
WH-WHAT IS THIS JOINT?

A GUST OF WIND BLOWS THROUGH THE ROOM,,, THE HEAVY DOOR SLAMS BEHIND YOU ....

HEY!

SLAM!

THE DOOR IS JAMMED OR LOCKED,,, IT WON'T BUDGE! THUNDER,,, LIGHTNING AGAIN, AND ON THE DOOR ARE LETTERS,,, WORDS,,, AND NOW YOU KNOW WHAT THIS PLACE IS!

CITY MORGUE

FINE PLACE I PICKED FOR A HIDE-OUT! THE CITY MORGUE! I'M GETTIN' OUTTA HERE! I'LL GO OUT THE WINDOW!

BARRED! WHAT'S THAT? COPS' WHISTLES! THEY'RE OUTSIDE THERE! MAYBE IT'S LUCKY I CAN'T GET OUTTA THIS JOINT! THESE GUYS'RE DEAD AN' DEAD MEN AIN'T DANGEROUS! I'LL JUST FORGET WHAT KINDA PLACE THIS IS! I WON'T LOOK AT THE SLABS, THAT'S ALL!

THE BIG CLOCK ON THE WALL TICKS AWAY THE SECONDS! IT'S QUIET!

YOUR BACK IS TOWARD THE SHROUDED FIGURES! YOU TRY TO IGNORE THEM, BUT THEY'RE THERE AND YOU'RE CONSCIOUS OF THEM LIKE LIVING EYES BORING AT YOUR BACK! YOU'RE SWEATING,,, YOUR EYES ARE A LITTLE WILD ,,,

I GOTTA GET HOLD OF MYSELF! THIS IS CRAZY! THEY CAN'T HURT ME! THEY'RE DEAD! DEAD!

DEAD LIKE THE VICTIMS OF YOUR BUSINESS! THOSE VICTIMS ....YOU REMEMBER THEM ALL SO WELL,,,

WHY SHOULD I THINK OF THEM NOW? I JUST WANT TO STAY HERE UNTIL THE LITTLE GUY COMES BACK, OPENS THE DOOR AND I CAN LEAVE! THEN THE COPS WILL BE GONE! I DON'T WANT TO REMEMBER THOSE OTHERS,,, BUT I CAN'T HELP IT!

THE CLOCK TICKS ON! NOW BEHIND YOU, YOU SEEM TO HEAR A RUSTLING MOVEMENT,,,

I DON'T LIKE CORPSES. BUT I KNOW THEY DON'T MOVE! IT'S JUST MY IMAGINATION,,,, THERE'S NO MOVEMENT,,, JUST MY IMAGINATION PUSHING ME AROUND TO LOOK! BUT I WON'T LOOK,,, I WON'T TURN AROUND! THEY'RE DEAD!

SURE IT'S JUST YOUR IMAGINATION THAT MAKES YOU THINK THOSE SHROUDED FIGURES BEHIND YOU ARE SITTING UP...
...THAT THEY'RE POINTING AT YOU, THEIR ARMS RISING AND THE SHROUDS SLIPPING DOWN...
AND THAT EVERY LIFELESS CORPSE FACE IS THE FACE OF ONE OF YOUR VICTIMS, ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE YOU "EXECUTED" IN THE PERFORMANCE OF YOUR TRADE....
JENSON... CORROLA... O'MALLEY... ALL OF THEM! I REMEMBER EACH ONE! NO! NO!
YOU MUST TURN... YOU'VE GOT TO TURN! YOU'VE GOT TO DISPEL THE PHANTOMS BEHIND YOU! BUT WHAT IF THEY'RE NOT PHANTOMS? WHAT IF...?
NO! IT'S MY IMAGINATION... NOTHING ELSE! I'LL TURN AROUND AND PROVE IT!
YOU TURN, THE TASTE OF SWEAT SALTY IN YOUR MOUTH. A GUSTY SIGH RIPPLES YOUR LIPS. THE BODIES ARE QUIET, UNMOVING ON THEIR SLABS.
SURE... JUST NERVES! THEY'RE DEAD.... THEY CAN'T HURT ME!
BUT THERE'S A NAGGING IN BACK OF YOUR MIND! THOSE FACES... IT CAN'T BE...
ALL RIGHT, TO SATISFY MYSELF I'LL LOOK! THOSE OTHER GUYS'VE BEEN BURIED LONG AGO! BUT I'LL LOOK! I HATE CORPSES, BUT I'LL LOOK! MAYBE THEN I CAN QUIET DOWN... NOT LET THIS PLACE GET ME!
SURE... NEVER SAW HIM BEFORE IN MY LIFE!
A DAME! NEVER SAW HER BEFORE EITHER! JUST GOES TO SHOW WHAT A GUY'S IMAGINATION CAN DO!

IMAGINATION ... OR CONSCIENCE? BUT YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THE WORD MEANS DO YOU, JOEY! YOU GO DOWN THE LINE OF CORPSES, NOW YOU'RE AT THE LAST ONE, IT'S DARK, YOU LEAN OVER TO SEE, PUTTING PRESSURE ON THE BELLY OF THE DEAD MAN...

THIS ONE... HE LOOKS...

NEWLY DEAD... THE GASES OF DECOMPOSITION MOVING IN THE STOMACH ..... MOVING THE BODY LIKE A RAG DOLL WHOSE LIPS FLUTTER AND BELCH...

THE GUY... THE GUY I JUST KILLED!

YOU SCREAM NOW, JOEY... YOU TRY TO JUMP BACK, BUT YOUR FOOT IS ENTANGLED IN THE SHROUD! YOU FALL...

NO! NO!

IT FALLS ON TOP OF YOU, ITS FACE ON YOUR FACE! YOU CAN'T GET OUT FROM UNDER! IT MOVES AS YOU MOVE... SEEMS TO BE HOLDING YOU! THE GUN, JOEY... THAT'S ALWAYS THE WAY... THE GUN...

YOU'RE DEAD... DEAD! YOU CAN'T HURT ME! GET AWAY FROM ME!

ALL RIGHT, TAKE IT AGAIN! DIE AGAIN! DIE! DIE!

THE CLOCK TICKS ON! IT'S TWELVE O'CLOCK... MIDNIGHT IN THE MORGUE! THE LITTLE MAN COMES BACK! HE OPENS THE DOOR! A VOICE CRIES OUT TO HIM .....

WELL!, FOR ...

THE LITTLE MAN GOES TO THE PHONE! HE CALLS THE SIXTH PRECINCT...

YEAH... I DON'T KNOW HOW HE GOT IN! NO, HE AIN'T DEAD, BUT THE POOR SLOB WOULD BE BETTER OFF IF HE WAS! HE'S COMPLETELY NUTS! HE'S SITTIN' IN THE CORNER, ON A SLAB, AND HE KEEPS SAYIN'...

I'M DEAD! ME AN' HIM, WE'RE DEAD! HA, HA, HA, HA, HA! I'M DEAD! DEAD! DEAD!

THE END

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WEIRD STORIES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER ATLAS

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New, Amazing

SIL-O-JETS

actually Fly at a Scale Speed of 600 M.P.H.

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1065 Broadway, Brooklyn 21, N. Y.

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☐ I enclose 25c (cash) for your giant 128 page 2-color catalog listing over 10,000 model & hobby items (airplanes, speedboats, race cars, engines, accessories, etc.).

GUARANTEED TO FLY

Each SIL-O-JET is unconditionally guaranteed to fly if you follow the simple instructions. If the SIL-O-JETS do not fly, return with the JETEX #50 engine within 10 days and your money wil be refunded.

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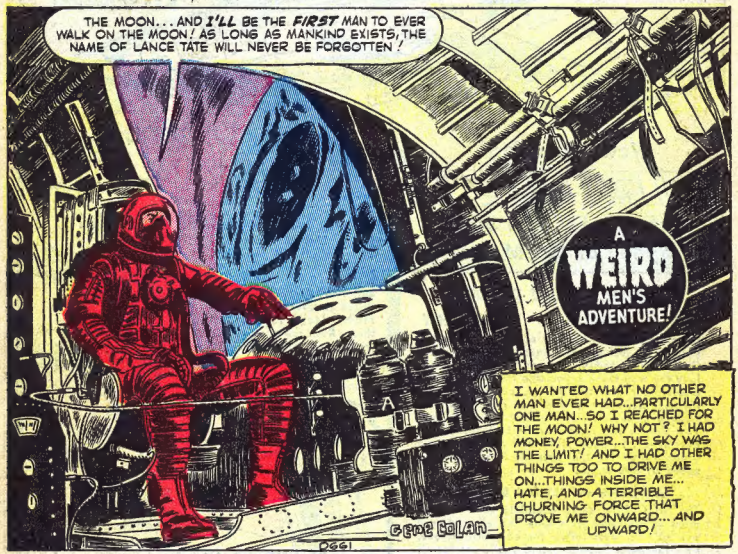
LET'S EXIT FROM THE MORGUE AND TAKE A TRIP TO THE MOON! THAT'S WHAT *THIS* CREEP DOES, AND WHAT A SHOCK *HE* HAS WAITING FOR HIM! HE SHOULDA *STAYED* ON GOOD, OLD TERRA FIRMA!

I WALKED ON THE MOON


THE MOON... AND *I'LL* BE THE *FIRST* MAN TO EVER WALK ON THE MOON! AS LONG AS MANKIND EXISTS, THE NAME OF LANCE TATE WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN!
A WEIRD MEN'S ADVENTURE!
I WANTED WHAT NO OTHER MAN EVER HAD...PARTICULARLY ONE MAN...SO I REACHED FOR THE MOON! WHY NOT? I HAD MONEY, POWER...THE SKY WAS THE LIMIT! AND I HAD OTHER THINGS TOO TO DRIVE ME ON...THINGS INSIDE ME... HATE, AND A TERRIBLE CHURNING FORCE THAT DROVE ME ONWARD... AND UPWARD!
OGGI
Gene Colan

I HATED KING PHILLIPS! EVER SINCE WE WERE KIDS ON SOUTH STREET, I'D HATED HIM!

IT WAS ONE OF THOSE THINGS... A CLASH OF PERSONALITIES, OR... WELL, I GUESS MAYBE A PSYCHIATRIST COULD GIVE IT A NAME! ANYWAY IT WAS THERE... THE *HATE!*

IT WAS STRANGE THAT WE HATED EACH OTHER SO / OUR FATHERS WERE IN BUSINESS TOGETHER... A SMALL MACHINE SHOP NEAR THE RIVER...

I'LL GET YOU YET! I'LL KILL YOU!

I'LL GET YOU FIRST, YOU RAT!

THAT'S ENOUGH, YOU HEAR?

IN SCHOOL OUR RIVALRY CONTINUED / ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD...

THUMP!

IN THE CLASSROOM...

...AND OUR TWO HONOR STUDENTS, THIS YEAR AS LAST YEAR, ARE LANCE TATE AND KING PHILLIPS!

WE WERE THE BEST IN EVERYTHING BECAUSE OF THE WAY WE DROVE EACH OTHER! BUT NO MATTER HOW WE TRIED, NEITHER ONE OF US COULD BEST THE OTHER!

THE DECISION FOR THE INTER-SCHOLASTIC BOXING TITLE IS...A DRAW!

IT WAS DURING THE KOREAN CONFLICT THAT DAD'S BUSINESS PROSPERED! GOVERNMENT ORDERS BROUGHT HUGE PROFITS! DAD BUILT A BEAUTIFUL HOUSE IN AN EXCLUSIVE NEIGHBORHOOD!

TOO BAD YOUR PARTNER PHILLIPS HAS TO SHARE IN YOUR GOOD LUCK! I SUPPOSE THAT STINKER KING WILL BE LIVING IN A HOUSE LIKE THIS TOO, NOW!

NOW, LANCE, YOU SHOULDN'T SAY SUCH THINGS!

THAT'S WHAT SPOILED IT ALWAYS FOR ME! NO MATTER WHAT I DID, KING PHILLIPS DID AS WELL! NO MATTER WHAT I HAD, HE EQUALED ME!

LANCE, DID YOU SEE THE PAPER? A GOVERNMENT SCANDAL...AND YOUR FATHER'S COMPANY IS BEING INVESTIGATED!

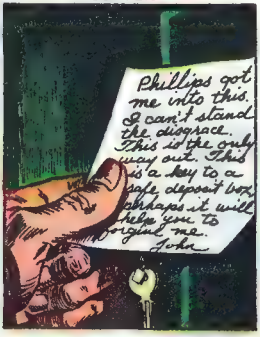
THAT'S WHY DAD CAME HOME EARLY! HE DIDN'T EVEN SAY HELLO... JUST WENT RIGHT UPSTAIRS TO HIS ROOM!

THAT'S WHEN I HEARD THE SHOT!

A SHOT! IT CAME FROM DAD'S ROOM!

BAM

I FOUND THE SUICIDE NOTE IN HIS ROOM... AND THE SAFE DEPOSIT BOX KEY!


Phillips got me into this. I can't stand the disgrace. This is the only way out. This is a key to a safe deposit box, perhaps it will help you to forgive me. John

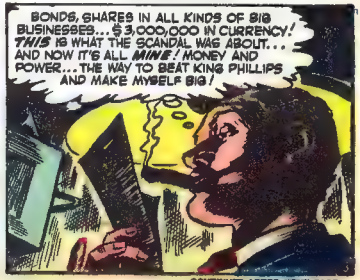
MY FATHER'S TRAGIC DEATH WAS TOO MUCH FOR MOTHER TO STAND! SHE DIED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF A HEART ATTACK! IT WAS WHEN I CAME BACK FROM THE DOUBLE FUNERAL THAT I REMEMBERED THE KEY...

WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE, YOU SNAKE?
MY FATHER JUST COMMITTED SUICIDE! HE LEFT A NOTE SAYING YOUR FATHER GOT HIM INTO THAT MESS! YOUR OLD MAN WAS THE SAME KIND OF LOUSE YOU ARE!

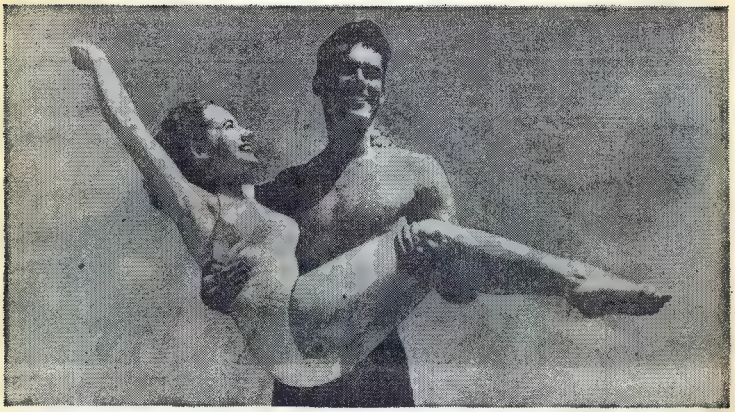
WE WERE AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS IN A MINUTE, AND FROM HIS FACE I KNEW THAT THIS WAS NO LONGER KID STUFF! BOTH OF US WERE PUSHED BY A RED RAGE TO KILL!

HIS FACE WAS BLUE, MY TONGUE WAS PROTRUDING AND MY EYES GLAZING WHEN THE POLICE CAR HAPPENED BY...

THAT WAS THE LAST TIME I SAW KING PHILLIPS FOR A LONG WHILE! THE NEXT DAY I WENT TO THE BANK AND GOT DAD'S SAFE DEPOSIT BOX, AND A NEW LIFE BEGAN FOR ME...


BONDS, SHARES IN ALL KINDS OF BIG BUSINESSES... $3,000,000 IN CURRENCY! THIS IS WHAT THE SCANDAL WAS ABOUT... AND NOW IT'S ALL MINE! MONEY AND POWER... THE WAY TO BEAT KING PHILLIPS AND MAKE MYSELF BIG!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...



Skinny Girls Don't Have OOMPH!

It takes those extra lbs. of solid flesh to "bring out" your natural curves

If you're otherwise healthy but skinny, scrawny, rundown and lbs. underweight, try correcting this common mistake in eating.

THERE are three essential substances that many thin, scrawny and undernourished girls may fail to get in sufficient quantity from the food they eat. These substances are Vitamin B_1, calcium phosphate and iron. If, like thousands of others, you are underweight without organic cause . . . never seem to gain a pound . . . are so thin that you look gangling and gawky from insufficient amounts of these precious elements, don't get discouraged.

You may find that by correcting this simple mistake in eating you can easily add firm solid flesh . . . extra alluring pounds that help bring out those natural eye-catching curves. A simple and easy way is to try the amazing new product called Numal that supplies, in significant amounts, the Vitamin B_1, calcium phosphate and iron needed in the daily diet. Plus a food that in itself is a great help in adding extra pounds.

Take 1 heaping teaspoonful of Numal 3 times a day. It is pleasant, assimilable and easy to take. You will get the equivalent in Vitamin B_1 content of 34 cakes of average moist baker's yeast . . . the iron equivalent of 15 pounds of tomatoes or 1½ pounds of spinach or 9 pounds of boiled beets...and the calcium equivalent of ¼the pint of fresh cow's milk, the phosphorus content of 1 glass.

Remember, if you don't get a sufficient quantity of Vitamin B_1 in your daily diet, you may suffer loss of appetite. And without sufficient iron, the element that helps build rich red blood, you may be rundown, pale, weak and listless. You need calcium phosphate for sound teeth and sturdy bones.

SKINNY MEN ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE EITHER

. . . a skinny, scrawny body is no asset in social or business life. Give NUMAL a chance to build you up, put firm flesh on you.

Numal Must Please You or No Cost

So if you are skinny, gangling and bony from lack of these precious nutrients, don't wait any longer. Get Numal today. You will want those extra pounds that "bring out" your natural eye-catching curves. Take Numal faithfully for a week. See if you can't actually feel the difference . . . gain weight and better color. If after this short period you honestly don't feel Numal has benefited you, just return the bottle for a complete refund of your money. Numal costs but a few cents a day to use.

If loss of weight persists see your doctor

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Send me at once a jar of NUMAL with the understanding that it must put weight on me or you'll refund my money after the first jar. I'll pay postman $3.00 plus C.O.D. charges and postage.

Name _____

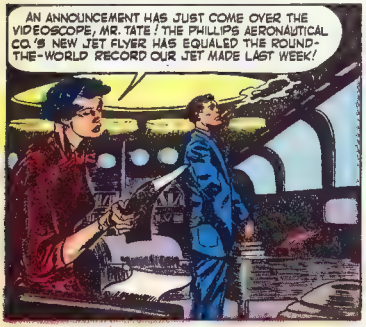
Address _____

City _____ Zone ____ State _____

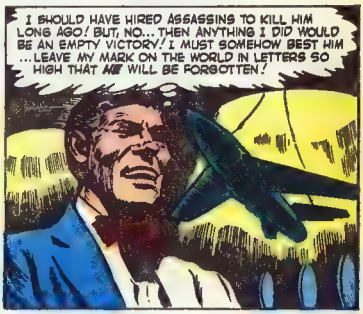
NOTE: If you want to save all postal charges enclose $3 check, money order or cash. We will pay all postal charges. Same money-back guarantee.

Sorry: Canadian orders cannot be sent C.O.D. Send International Money Order.

THE YEARS PASSED/ BY 1968 THE INDUSTRIAL EMPIRE I HAD BRUTALLY GRASPED MADE ME ONE OF THE GREAT PEOPLE OF THE WORLD...


AN ANNOUNCEMENT HAS JUST COME OVER THE VIDEOSCOPE, MR. TATE! THE PHILLIPS AERONAUTICAL CO.'S NEW JET FLYER HAS EQUALED THE ROUND-THE-WORLD RECORD OUR JET MADE LAST WEEK!

YES, KING PHILLIPS HAD HAD A SAFE DEPOSIT BOX TOO, AND HE HAD USED THE CONTENTS AS I HAD/ HIS NAME, AND ONLY HIS, EQUALED MINE FOR MONEY AND POWER IN THE WORLD!


I SHOULD HAVE HIRED ASSASSINS TO KILL HIM LONG AGO! BUT, NO... THEN ANYTHING I DID WOULD BE AN EMPTY VICTORY! I MUST SOMEHOW BEST HIM ...LEAVE MY MARK ON THE WORLD IN LETTERS SO HIGH THAT *AGE* WILL BE FORGOTTEN!

A NEW DREAM HAD COME TO MANKIND OVER THE YEARS AND THAT DREAM HAD BECOME ***MY*** DREAM!

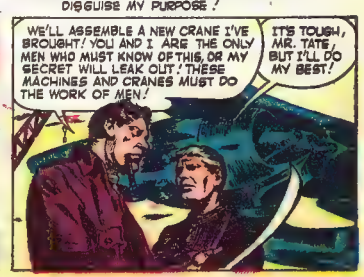
AND THE MAN WHO FIRST WALKS ON THE MOON WILL BE THE GREATEST HERO THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN ...AND THE WORLD WILL NEVER FORGET HIM!

THAT'S IT! THAT'S THE WAY TO BEAT KING PHILLIPS! I'LL BUILD A SHIP AND FLY TO THE MOON! I'LL CLAIM ALL MINERAL AND INDUSTRIAL RIGHTS TO THE PLANET AND KING PHILLIPS WILL FADE INTO DARKNESS IN THE LIGHT OF ***MY*** ETERNAL GLORY!

I FOUND A SITE IN THE NORTH WOODS WHERE NO MAN EVER CAME/ I BOUGHT 10,000 ACRES AND SURROUNDED IT WITH CHARGED WIRE AND BROUGHT THERE A YOUNG GENIUS ON SPACE CRAFT AND FLIGHT!

YOU KNOW WHAT I WANT! I'LL FLY IN THE PARTS MYSELF! YOU ARE NOT TO LEAVE THIS PLACE! EVERYTHING MUST BE DONE IN THE UTMOST SECRECY! KING PHILLIPS MUST NEVER HAVE AN INKLING OF MY PURPOSE!

FROM THE THOUSANDS OF FACTORIES UNDER MY CONTROL, I HAD THE NECESSARY MATERIAL AND MACHINERY BUILT/ IN NO ONE PLACE DID I HAVE MADE MORE THAN A SECTIONAL PART, SO AS TO DISGUISE MY PURPOSE!


WE'LL ASSEMBLE A NEW CRANE I'VE BROUGHT! YOU AND I ARE THE ONLY MEN WHO MUST KNOW OF THIS, OR MY SECRET WILL LEAK OUT! THESE MACHINES AND CRANES MUST DO THE WORK OF MEN!
IT'S TOUGH, MR. TATE, BUT I'LL DO MY BEST!

TOWARD THE END I DIDN'T LEAVE AT ALL.' I WORKED SIDE BY SIDE WITH MY GENIUS, SOMETHING INSIDE OF ME DRIVING ME...AND WHILE I WORKED, I PLANNED...

I'LL BLAST OFF WHEN THE TIME COMES, AND ASTRONOMERS WILL SEE A BODY IN FLIGHT OUT THERE, NOT KNOWING WHAT IT IS! UNTIL I RETURN, NO ONE SHALL KNOW OF THIS GREAT ADVENTURE!

THEN CAME THE GREAT DAY! THE MOON WAS IN THE RIGHT POSITION IN RELATION TO EARTH... EVERYTHING HAD BEEN TESTED THOROUGHLY AND WAS READY!

BEST OF LUCK, MR. TATE! I... WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT GUN?

I'M SORRY IT HAS TO BE THIS WAY, BUT I CAN'T TRUST ANYONE! NOBODY MUST KNOW OF THIS FLIGHT TO THE MOON UNTIL MY TRIUMPHANT RETURN!

NO! I WON'T... ARRRGHHHH!

BIM

THEN I BLASTED OFF ON MY GREAT ADVENTURE!

HHHoooooooMMMMSSS

THE SHIP HANDLED SWEETLY! THE MOON RUSHED TOWARD ME THROUGH SPACE! I LIFTED MY HAND AND IT FIT IN MY PALM; OR SO IT SEEMED TO MY FANCY...

IN THE PALM OF MY HAND! VEG, AND SO WILL THE EARTH BE IN THE PALM OF MY HAND WHEN I RETURN AND THEY KNOW! TWO PLANETS WILL BE MINE!

THE MOON HOVERED BELOW! I REVERSED THE JETS AND THE SHIP LOWERED ITSELF SLOWLY. IT WAS A COLD NIGHT ON THE MOON, AND I WAS IMMERSED IN LANDING OPERATIONS, BUT OUT OF THE CORNER OF MY EYE I SAW SOMETHING BLAZE OFF TO MY RIGHT...

THAT LOOKS LIKE... LIKE ANOTHER SPACE SHIP!

I LANDED LIKE A FEATHER! QUICKLY I TURNED ON THE HEAT UNITS OF MY SPACE SUIT AGAINST THE TERRIBLE NIGHT COLD OF THE MOON AND DESCENDED TO THE SURFACE...

IT'S HIM! IT'S KING PHILLIPS... I FEEL IT! HE HAD THE SAME IDEA I HAD!

KEEPING THE RAGGED ROCK FORMATIONS BETWEEN MYSELF AND THE OTHER SHIP, I MOVED FORWARD...

HE ISN'T GOING TO STEAL *MY* DREAM! HE AND I ALONE ON A DEAD WORLD! HA, THIS TIME I'LL FINISH HIM FOR GOOD!

THE COLD WAS GETTING TO ME / I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TIME! THE PORT OF HIS SHIP WAS OPEN...I CRAWLED IN, HATE TEARING AT MY GUTS LIKE A LIVE SNAKE...

NO ONE HERE! HE'S LEFT HIS SHIP! PROBABLY CURIOUS ABOUT MY SHIP!

HE WANTED TO GET TO THE MOON TO BE A HERO... TO BECOME THE BIG MAN ON TWO PLANETS! ALL RIGHT, HE GOT TO THE MOON... AND HE'LL *ROT HERE*, WHILE *I* GO BACK TO EARTH AND THE GLORY THAT'S WAITING FOR ME! THE FIRST MAN TO WALK ON THE MOON!

SMASH

HIS SHIP WOULD NEVER FLY AGAIN! I WAS GROWING NUMB! I MUST GET BACK BEFORE THE ICY DEATH OF THE MOON TOOK ME...

"IT'S HIM! HE'S BEEN TO MY SHIP! THE STINKIN' SNAKE...HE SMASHED IT...HE'S TRYING TO KEEP ME HERE ON THE MOON...MAKE THE PLANET MURDER ME!

HE SAW ME...HE KNEW THAT I HAD DONE TO HIS SHIP WHAT HE HAD DONE TO MINE! THE COLD WAS NUMBING OUR BODIES...WE CRAWLED TOWARD EACH OTHER! THE FIRST TWO MEN TO REACH THE MOON...THE ONLY HUMANS ON A DEAD PLANET...AND ALL WE HAD IN OUR HEARTS WAS...*KILL!*

WE WERE WITHIN A FEW FEET OF EACH OTHER WHEN THE ICY FINGERS OF THE MOON CLOBBED ON US, STOPPING US! WE LAY THERE, GLARING AT EACH OTHER, STIFFENING, UNABLE TO MOVE...

THE IRONY OF IT! OUR HATE FOR EACH OTHER DROVE US TO THE GREATEST ADVENTURE OF MANKIND... AND THAT SAME HATE WILL KEEP ANYONE FROM EVER KNOWING! THE EMPIRES WE BUILT WILL FALL APART AND OUR NAMES WILL BE FORGOTTEN! EVERYTHING WE DID, EVERYTHING WE WANTED AND DREAMED OF, GONE, IN OUR MOMENT OF GREATEST TRIUMPH!

I CURSED HIM...AND THE CURSES WERE BUBBLES IN MY THROAT... RED, FROZEN BUBBLES... AND THE COLD PUSHED DOWN, UNTIL THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT BUT THE SILENT MOON...AND APPROACHING DEATH!

THE END

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LOOK IN THE MIRROR

ROGER FAIRMONT gazed thoughtfully into the mirror before him. Yes, it was true! He was handsome, indeed!

He recalled the evening before, when he had attended a cocktail party given by Marian Waverly, a glittering, noisy affair given for the employees of her publishing firm, and at which he mingled with editors, publishers, and clients, in perfect ease. He was an accounting clerk, making a modest salary, but his striking good looks, his stature, his poise seemed to mark him as a man of definite distinction. He politely sipped cocktails with fur-bedecked women, smoked with the pot-bellied executives, joked with the diamond-studded crowds who were discussing one of Marian Waverly's new magazines. He enjoyed the feeling of "belonging" to the society he so envied. He smiled when he remembered hearing a remark about himself as he passed through the smoke-filled music room.

"My, Roxanne, do you know who that remarkably handsome man could be? Perhaps another of Marian's admiring swains?"

Yes, Roger Fairmont had impressed the smartly-dressed women many times before, and although on Monday he would return to being another accountant for the Waverly Publishing Company, he would relish the picture of the night before for months.

"Hmmm", he mused, as he carefully brushed a speck of ash from his jacket. "A remarkably handsome man. Why, yes, it's so . . . after all, why shouldn't I be the first to acknowledge that as being true? It's frightful to know that all those women would tear their hair to know me, if only I were more important than a clerk." He again looked into the mirror.

"Hmm, yes, REMARKABLY handsome!"

Suddenly there was a twitching of his chin. He put his hand up to the spot and felt a scaly bump.

"Oh, probably just a shaving irritation," he said, dismissing the annoyance. He turned away from the mirror, and then suddenly toward it again, a look of surprise and inspiration greeting him. Why, if I weren't just a clerk . . . perhaps a . . . a MODEL . . ."

Inspired, he carefully recombed his hair, changed to a fresher shirt, selected a gay tie, and full of confidence, checked his appearance once more in the mirror. He then turned the key in the door of his modest room, and strutted down two flights to the street below, where he hailed a taxi.

Riding along in the cab, he caught his reflection in the window. He smoothed his hair a little, and smiled, thinking, "How fortunate some model agency will be to have such an outstandingly handsome man on their list." Even as he thought this, the strange twitching again annoyed him. He quickly took out a pocket mirror from his jacket and was alarmed to see a second bump on his chin, as scaly and as purple as the first. His chin began to burn violently.

A few minutes later, he was in the office of Edward Morris Models Inc., tapping his finger impatiently on the arm of the chair as he waited to see Mr. Morris. After what seemed hours, the trim secretary ushered him into a plushy office.

Without looking up from a pile of photographs on his desk, Mr. Morris said, "Well, Mr. Fairmont, do you know anything about modeling?"

Roger sat up straight. "Certainly . . . anyone can smile for a camera . . . but *I* can look good doing it."

"Yes . . . ahem, where have you trained?"

"Trained? Really, Mr. Morris, I'm sure it's very simple. Obviously I am suited for modeling. I'm tall, built well, and I dare say I'm a handsome fellow. I don't need training." And he

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT STORY...

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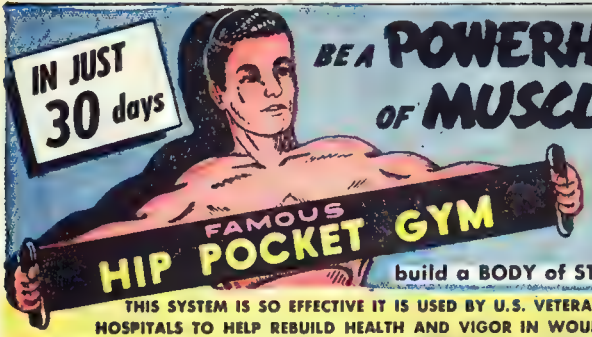

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THE BURNING SANDS

THE POSSE PULLED UP AT THE EDGE OF THE DESERT AND FOLLOWED THE TRACKS OF A MAN AS FAR AS THEIR SUN-SCORCHED EYES COULD SEE! THE TRACKS WERE SWALLOWED IN THE CAULDRON OF SHIMMERING HEAT! THEIR QUARRY HAD ELUDED A ROPE TO GAMBLE FOR HIS LIFE AGAINST THE DESERT! AND THE DESERT GAMBLED ONLY ON A SURE BET!

A WEIRD MEN'S ADVENTURE!

G. EVANS

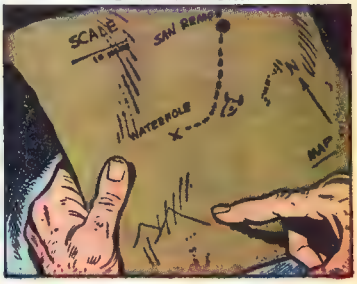
THERE WAS NOTHING FOR THEM TO DO BUT TURN BACK! AT LEAST THE SEARING BLAST OF DESERT HEAT WOULD BE AT THEIR BACKS INSTEAD OF IN THEIR FACES.....

CABE SAW THEM GO AND CHUCKLED INWARDLY! HE HAD WON THE FIRST ROUND! HIS EYES ROLLED AROUND, SHYING FROM THE FURIOUS RAYS OF HEAT WHICH SCALDED HIS LIDS....

I'M FREE! IT'S ME AN' THE DESERT NOW!

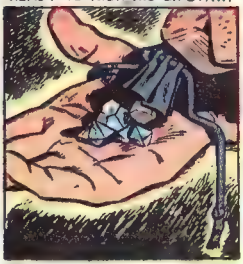
HE SHOOK OFF THE CLINGING SAND AND SAT DOWN TO TAKE STOCK! FROM HIS POCKETS HE TOOK THREE PRECIOUS ITEMS AND LAID THEM OUT ON THE BURNING SAND.....

FIRST, THERE WAS THE MAP.... CRUDELY SKETCHED ON SHEEPSKIN BY AN OLD APACHE MURDERER! HE LAID HIS FINGER ON HIS POSITION AND GAUGED THE DISTANCE TO THE WATERHOLE.....



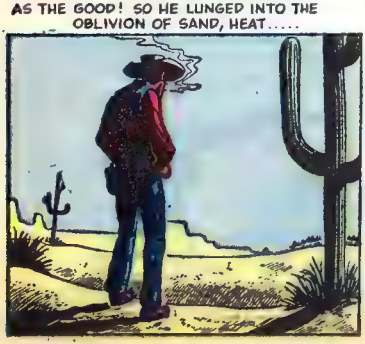
NEXT, THERE WAS THE CANTEEN OF WATER...

AND LAST OF ALL THERE WAS HIS CACHE OF PRECIOUS STONES ....ROUGH DIAMONDS HE HAD KILLED TO OWN, A KING'S RANSOM FOR WHICH HE WAS READY TO RISK HIS LIFE.....

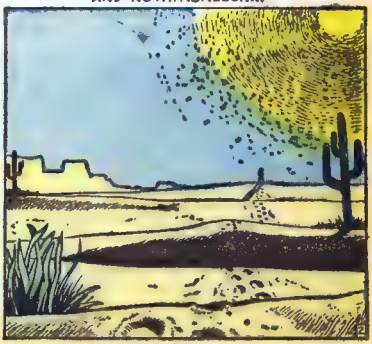


HE WAS A SATISFIED MAN, WITH A JUG OF WATER, A SACK OF DIAMONDS AND A MAP...

COURAGE! THE EVIL POSSESS IT AS WELL AS THE GOOD! SO HE LUNGED INTO THE OBLIVION OF SAND, HEAT.....



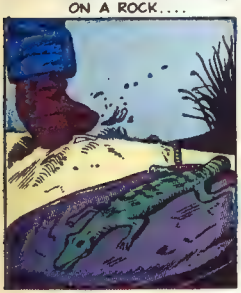
AND NOTHINGNESS.....



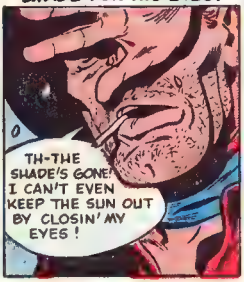
A MAN MOVED ACROSS THE DESERT! THE DESERT WAS DEAD... KILLED BY THE HEAT WHICH PENETRATED, CONSUMED, SCORCHED, DEHYDRATED AND CORRODED....

THE MAN MOVED AND THE SUN MOVED WITH HIM, A RELENTLESS, REMORSELESS OBJECT OF SCALDING PUNISHMENT ..

THE HEAT WAS EVERYWHERE! NOTHING ESCAPED IT! A LIZARD HAD SOUGHT SHADE AND FAILED! IT LAY ROASTED ON A ROCK....

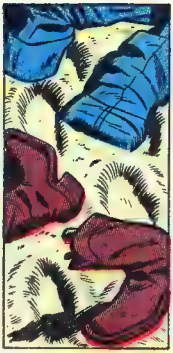


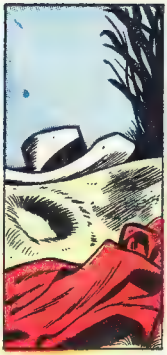
THE FUGITIVE LUNGED ONWARD AND THEN HE NOTICED A HORRIBLE THING! ***NOT EVEN HIS HAND PROVIDED SHADE FOR HIS EYES!***



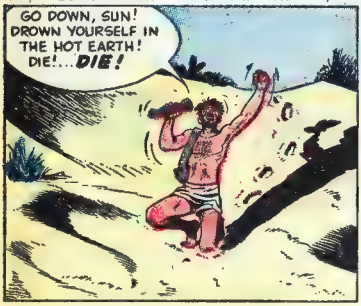
THE SUN SEARED INTO HIS EYES UNHINDERED! FLESH HAD LOST TO BOILING HEAT! HE DIDN'T KNOW OF COURSE, ***BUT HIS EYELIDS HAD BEEN SCORCHED AWAY!***

THE HEAT SINGED AND SIMMERED, AN INCANDESCENT AURA OF MERCILESS FLAME! THE FUGITIVE LEFT HIS TRACK FOR ALL TO READ.....



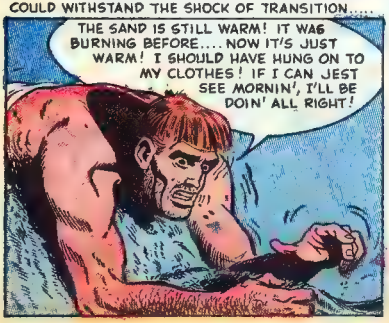


HE WAS HALF NAKED, BUT HE STILL HAD HIS WATER AND HIS MAP! HE HAD ONLY TO LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO USE THEM.....

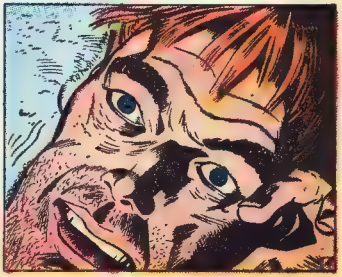


AND THE SUN DIED, BUT THE MOON FLOATED GHOSTLIKE INTO LIFE! WITH THE MOON CAME THE STRANGE CHILL OF THE DESERT NIGHT, AND THE BODY THAT HAD BEEN SCORCHED, NOW TREMBLED WITH COLD....

THE HEAT SLOWLY DRAINED OUT OF HIS BODY AND COLD SET IN! NEITHER HIS MIND NOR HIS BODY COULD WITHSTAND THE SHOCK OF TRANSITION.....


THE SAND IS STILL WARM! IT WAS BURNING BEFORE.... NOW IT'S JUST WARM! I SHOULD HAVE HUNG ON TO MY CLOTHES! IF I CAN JEST SEE MORNIN', I'LL BE DOIN' ALL RIGHT!

BUT THE SAND GREW COLD AND THE FUGITIVE SHUDDERED! HE WAS ALMOST NAKED. STRIPPED OF HOPE, ALONE IN A DEAD WORLD! HE TRIED TO SLEEP, BUT HIS LIDLESS EYES WOULD NOT PERMIT IT!

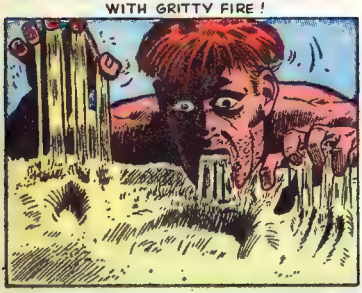


MORNING CAME, AND WITH IT THE SUN! THE FUGITIVE WASTED NO TIME GETTING STARTED! HE UNSCREWED THE CAP OF HIS CANTEEN FOR ONE LAST PULL....

EMPTY! DRIED OUT LIKE A HUSK OF CORN! IT'S THE SUN THAT DID IT! THE BLASTED, INFERNAL SUN! ALL RIGHT, SUN, I'LL SHOW YUH NOW!

HE LUNGED AHEAD BLINDLY, HIS REASON GONE! HE SAW AHEAD OF HIM THE GLISTENING REFLECTIONS OF SEVERAL WATERHOLES LYING LIKE BLUE JEWELS IN THE ARID SEA OF SAND.....

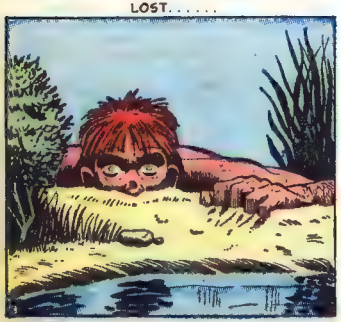
BUT ONE BY ONE THE MIRAGES FADED INTO BLISTERING SAND! HE STUFFED THE SAND IN HIS MOUTH, REFUSING TO BELIEVE HE HAD BEEN DECEIVED.... AND HIS MOUTH BURNED WITH GRITTY FIRE!



EACH BLUE POOL OF WATER HE SAW, HE RAN TO! THEN HE WALKED TOWARD THE EVASIVE ILLUSIONS...THEN HE CRAWLED... AND THEY ALL DISAPPEARED...

NO! I AIN'T WASTIN' MY STRENGTH NO MORE! I SEE YOU, BUT YOU AIN'T COLD, BLUE, SPARKLIN' WATER! YOU'RE DIRTY, ROTTEN, BURNING SAND! YOU AIN'T FOOLIN' ME!

HE DIED WITHIN INCHES OF THE LAST MIRAGE HE SAW! HE HAD GAMBLED AND LOST.....



THAT EVENING THE CREATURES OF THE DESERT CONVERGED ON THE WATERHOLE AND SLAKED THEIR THIRST WITH COOL DRAUGHTS! THEY PAID SCANT ATTENTION TO THE MAN LYING NEAR THEIR SOURCE OF LIFE....***WATER!***

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19 West 44th St., New York 18, N. Y.
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CONTINUED

gasped as another twitch brought his hand up to his cheek, where he discovered three more irritations.

As he boasted to Mr. Morris, the marks began to swell and burn, until it became almost unbearable.

Mr. Morris, who until then had been looking only at the photographs on his desk, suddenly rose and walked toward the vain creature who had invaded his office. He then observed Roger Fairmont, and laughed.

"Mr. Fairmont, are you trying to make a fool out of me? Don't you think I can see those scars on your face?"

Roger shot up out of his chair. "SCARS . . . WHAT SCARS? . . . WHY, I'M HANDSOME . . . YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!" He turned red in his anger and raced out of the room. He rushed down the steps to the subway station, muttering to himself. He passed a candy-vending machine and then stopped short at the image he saw in the mirror above it. His eyes widened as he saw that the bumps had become scars and that dozens of them covered his cheeks, his forehead and his chin.

He entered the train that pulled into the station, trying not to notice the mixed looks of pity and horror on the faces of the other passengers.

He couldn't sleep that night. He tossed and turned, the scars burning and itching throughout the long night. When morning finally came, he wearily went to the bureau and looked into the mirror. During the night the terrible scars had covered the entire surface of his skin. He slowly crept to his bed and dropped down on it, exhausted. Then he began to beat his fists into the pillow, screaming, "NO . . . NO . . . THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING . . . MY FACE . . . MY HANDS . . . BECOMING SCARRED AND UGLY . . . I CAN'T . . . I WON'T LOOK AT MYSELF . . . I WON'T WATCH MYSELF GROW UGLIER BY THE MINUTE!"

And Roger Fairmont made a vow to himself. Never again would he look at himself. He turned the mirror above the dresser to the wall. He covered the bathroom mirror with soap . . . never again would he see his own ugly image. He vowed that no one else would ever see Roger Fairmont, face horribly scarred, spirit broken.

For months he spoke to no one, except to order his meals over the telephone from the luncheonette downstairs, opening his door only enough to have the delivery boy slip the tray of food in to him, and to give him the money for the food. He slipped his rent payment under the door to the puzzled landlady when she knocked on his door. And soon he even refused to answer the telephone. He lived a life of solitude, even refusing to let his own image join him. Many times he would sadly recall how handsome he had been, and day after day the scars spread and became as red as fire.

One morning, many months later, he awoke to face another day of silence. He recalled the old days . . . the remark made to the woman named Roxanne at Marian Waverly's cocktail party . . . he even forgot his misery enough to manage a slight smile when he saw himself the object of all the delightful, mysterious whisperings of the girls who worked near him in the accounting office. Mechanically, he walked to the bathroom sink and rubbed the soap from a spot on the mirror above the sink, so that he could see himself. And then the reality of his plight struck him, like the blows of a thousand hammers. Before him he saw Roger Fairmont, face distorted, mouth twisted in agony, eyes glassy with horror.

"NO! IT ISN'T ME . . . IT ISN'T ROGER FAIRMONT . . . IT ISN'T *TRUE!*" He smashed the mirror with his fist.

He stood there, dripping with perspiration, hand covered with blood, eyes streaming with stinging tears. He looked down at the floor and screamed with a horror that made him choke. A thousand fragments of the broken mirror lay on the floor . . . a thousand reflections of his ugly face.

THE END 9789

NOW FOR OUR GRAND FINALE! STRANGE THINGS CAN HAPPEN IN A MAN'S DREAMS.. AND THIS CHARACTER IS HAVING THE WEIRDEST NIGHTMARE WE EVER HEARD OF! BUT WHEN THE NIGHTMARE BECOMES THE REAL THING, LOOK OUT, CHUM!

GORILLA MAN

ONLY ONE MAN HELD THE KEY TO A SECRET TOO HORRIBLE TO REVEAL! YOU, KEN HALE, WERE THAT MAN! THE CHOICE WAS YOURS...TO STAY AWAY AND LIVE SAFELY AND QUIETLY, OR... BUT YOU FOUND OUT THAT YOU HAD NO CHOICE WHEN AN EVIL FORCE DROVE YOU DEEP INTO THE JUNGLE TO FACE THE CHALLENGE OF THE... *GORILLA MAN!*

A WEIRD MEN'S ADVENTURE!

AAEERRG!

ROBERT E. SALE

DEITZ

WHEN DID IT BEGIN, KEN HALE? THINK BACK! WAS IT THAT AWFUL NIGHT YOU WOKE UP SCREAMING?

AAAREGH,HI!

KEN! FOR GOODNESS SAKE! WAKE UP!

YOU WOKE IN A SWEAT, YOUR SKIN CREEPING! REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID, KEN?

IT...IT WAS ONLY A NIGHTMARE! THANK HEAVENS! IT WAS HORRIBLE! A GORILLA MAN... THUMPING HIS CHEST... SCREAMING!

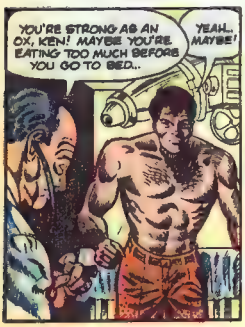
A GORILLA MAN! OF ALL THINGS! FORGET IT AND GO BACK TO SLEEP, DEAR!

IT WAS EASY FOR *HER* TO SAY, BUT LET *HER* TRY TO SLEEP WITH THAT AWFUL MEMORY OF THE NIGHTMARE IN HER MIND...REMEMBERING AS YOU DO THE TWO GIGANTIC, SAVAGE BODIES LOCKED TOGETHER IN A RELENTLESS DEATH STRUGGLE!

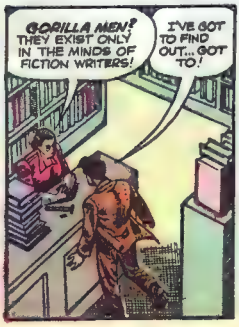
YOU COULDN'T FORGET IT BY THE NEXT DAY! YOU KEPT HEARING THAT UNEARTHLY SCREAM AND YOU KEPT THINKING *GORILLA MAN! GORILLA MAN!*

EASY FOR YOU TO SAY, EH? BUT IT WAS ALWAYS WITH YOU...THE SIGHT AND THE SCREAM...

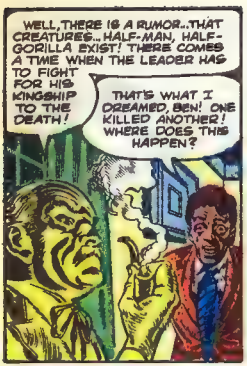
WHY? WHY? WHY DID THIS CALL HAUNT YOU? YOU CHECKED WITH YOUR DOCTOR...

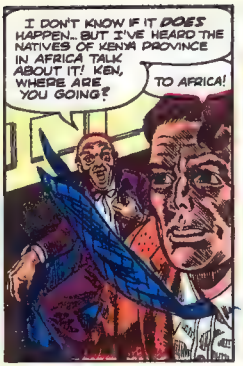


A RELENTLESS IMPULSE DROVE YOU TO THE LIBRARY! YOU *HAD* TO FIND OUT ABOUT...

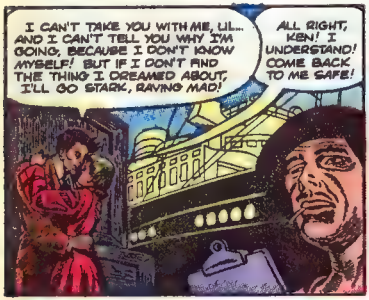


THEN YOUR FRANTIC URGE DROVE YOU TO A LAST RESORT...YOUR OLD FRIEND BENSON AT THE EXPLORERS' CLUB...

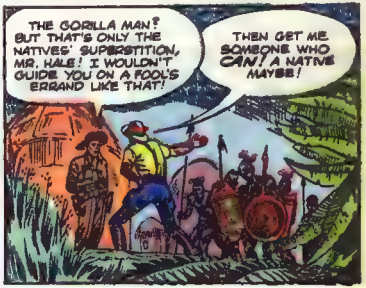

WELL, THERE IS A RUMOR...THAT CREATURES... HALF-MAN, HALF-GORILLA EXIST! THERE COMES A TIME WHEN THE LEADER HAS TO FIGHT FOR HIS KINGSHIP TO THE DEATH!
THAT'S WHAT I DREAMED, BEN! ONE KILLED ANOTHER! WHERE DOES THIS HAPPEN?


I DON'T KNOW IF IT DOES HAPPEN... BUT I'VE HEARD THE NATIVES OF KENYA PROVINCE IN AFRICA TALK ABOUT IT! KEN, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
TO AFRICA!

AND THAT'S HOW IT CAME ABOUT THAT YOU, KEN HALE, AN ORDINARY, UNADVENTUROUS CITIZEN, SUDDENLY DECIDED YOU WERE GOING TO HUNT BIG GAME IN AFRICA...


I CAN'T TAKE YOU WITH ME, LIL... AND I CAN'T TELL YOU WHY I'M GOING, BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW MYSELF! BUT IF I DON'T FIND THE THING I DREAMED ABOUT, I'LL GO STARK, RAVING MAD!
ALL RIGHT, KEN! I UNDERSTAND! COME BACK TO ME SAFE!

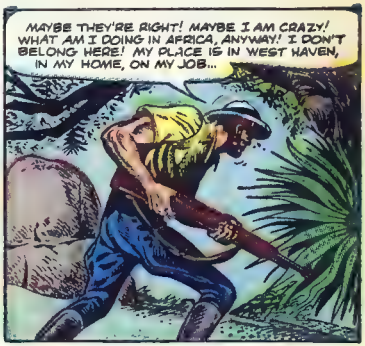
FOOLISH? PERHAPS! BUT YOU DIDN'T THINK IT FOOLISH TO TRAVEL THOUSANDS OF MILES IN SEARCH OF A NIGHTMARE? WHY, KEN HALE? WOULD YOU EVER FIND OUT WHY? YOU MEANT TO TRY HARD, AND YOU BEGAN WHEN YOU ARRIVED IN KENYA, AFRICA...


THE GORILLA MAN? BUT THAT'S ONLY THE NATIVES' SUPERSTITION, MR. HALE! I WOULDN'T GUIDE YOU ON A FOOL'S ERRAND LIKE THAT!
THEN GET ME SOMEONE WHO CAN! A NATIVE MAYBE!

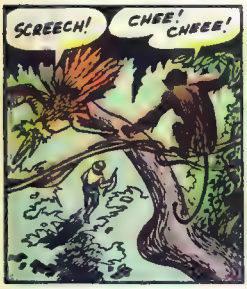
BUT WHEN THE NATIVES WERE ASKED, THEY HAD A DIFFERENT RESPONSE...

YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE SCREAM OF TRIUMPH SINCE YOU ARRIVED IN AFRICA, HAVE YOU? AND YOUR VISION IS GONE TOO! BUT YOU KNOW DEEP DOWN THAT THEY'RE STILL OUT THERE IN THAT GREAT HIDDEN VASTNESS THAT IS DEEPEST AFRICA! SO YOU GO AHEAD, AFRAID OF WHAT YOU'LL DISCOVER...

DOUBTS CREEP INTO YOUR MIND... AND FEAR!

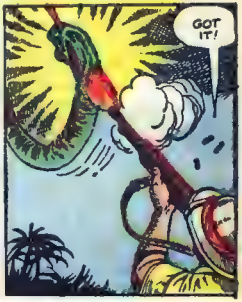

MAYBE THEY'RE RIGHT! MAYBE I AM CRAZY! WHAT AM I DOING IN AFRICA, ANYWAY! I DON'T BELONG HERE! MY PLACE IS IN WEST HAVEN, IN MY HOME, ON MY JOB...

THE JUNGLE IS UNLIKE THE U.S.A. ISN'T IT, KEN? YOU THOUGHT THIS STUFF EXISTED ONLY IN THE MOVIES.. BUT HERE YOU ARE, DEEP IN THE HEART OF IT!

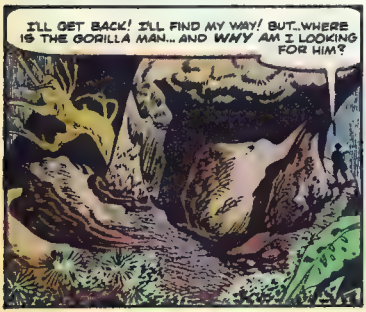


SOMEHOW, YOUR PULSE QUICKENS! YOU FEEL A PLEASURABLE EXCITEMENT AT ALL THIS! YOU FIND YOU LIKE IT HERE! STRANGE, ISN'T IT, KEN?

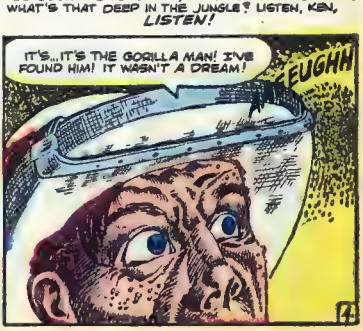
PEACEFUL? BEAUTIFUL? LOOK, KEN... AND ACT FAST! THERE'S DANGER HERE... AND SUDDEN DEATH!



YOU KEEP GOING...DEEPER AND DEEPER! THERE'S NO TURNING BACK NOW! YOU'VE LEFT NO TRAIL AND YOU WONDER HOW YOU'RE GOING TO GET BACK...YOU WONDER... BUT YOU DON'T WORRY!



ONCE AGAIN DOUBT ARISES! IT WAS JUST A BAD DREAM! MAYBE YOU OUGHT TO GO BACK! MAYBE YOU OUGHT TO FORGET IT, KEN! BUT WAIT...LISTEN.. WHAT'S THAT DEEP IN THE JUNGLE? LISTEN, KEN, LISTEN!

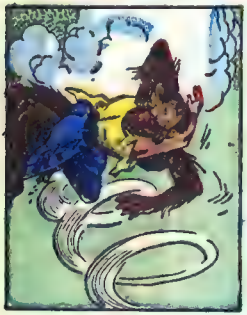


YOU STUMBLE AS YOU RUSH BLINDLY AHEAD! THERE'S A WILD JOY IN YOUR HEART AS YOU NEAR YOUR LONG-SOUGHT GOAL! YOU DON'T EVEN STOP TO THINK WHY OR HOW... ALL YOU KNOW IS THAT THE TRIUMPHANT SCREAM OF THE GORILLA MAN IS BRINGING YOU CLOSER AND CLOSER TO HIM AT LAST!

THEN, YOUR HEART BEATING LIKE A HEAVY TRIP-HAMMER, YOU COME UPON A CLEARING... AND THERE HE IS... EXACTLY AS IN YOUR NIGHTMARE!

WELL, KEN HALE, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW? YOU FOUND HIM! NOW RAISE YOUR RIFLE AND SHOOT! *THAT'S* WHY YOU CAME HERE, ISN'T IT.. TO KILL HIM AND GET RID OF HIM? WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR, MAN? *SHOOT! SHOOT! SHOOT!*

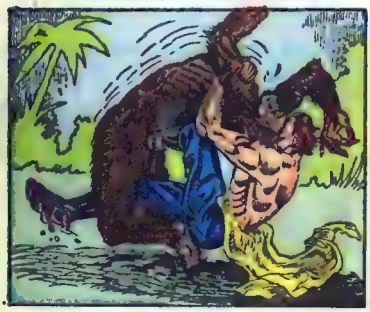
IS THIS THE WAY YOU MEAN TO KILL HIM, KEN? YOU REALLY MUST BE CRAZY! WHY? WHY?



THE QUESTION POUNDS IN YOUR BRAIN, BUT YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING ELSE TO SETTLE FIRST. IF ANY HUMAN CAN...

WHERE DID YOU GET SUCH STRENGTH? WHAT MADE YOUR MUSCLES SO HARD, YOUR ENERGY AND WILL SO STRONG?

SO STRONG THAT SOON YOU FEEL THE GORILLA MAN'S BODY GIVING IN AND WEAKENING! A LITTLE MORE... JUST A LITTLE MORE...



AND HE FALLS AT YOUR FEET... **DEAD!**

DO YOU STILL WANT AN ANSWER TO ALL THIS? THEN, LOOK AT YOUR HANDS, KEN... AND YOUR ARMS... AND YOUR BODY! **THERE'S** YOUR ANSWER...

YOU ARE THE **GORILLA MAN!**

WE'VE GOT A TERRIFIC BREW OF WEIRDIES COOKIN' FOR THE NEXT GREAT ISSUE OF **MEN'S ADVENTURES**! DON'T MISS IT! WE'LL BE EXPECTING YA!

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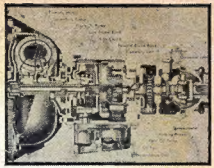

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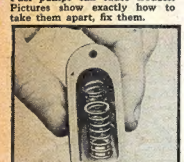

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